Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 07851 221517Z ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /126 W

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USMTN

PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY FOR ACTION STR PASS CODEL

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, PO

SUBJECT: POLISH MTN OFFERS

REF: A) GENEVA 02523, B) GENEVA A-160

1. COPY OF POLAND'S MTN OFFER DATED 26 APRIL (ADDRESSED TO DG LONG) REACHED MTN DEL MAY 16. COPY SENT WASHINGTON REF B. OFFER IN FORM OF A "STATEMENT WHICH CONSTITUTES THE NEGOTIATING OFFER OF POLAND" SAYS POLAND IS PREPARED TO (A) REDUCE POLISH TARIFF IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED FORMULA PROVIDING FOR AN AVERAGE 30-40 PERCENT REDUCTION FROM RATES INTRODUCED JAN 1, 1976, (B) ENTER INTO BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS ON REQUESTS ADDRESSED TO POLAND, AND (C) PARTICIPATE IN NEGDTIATIONS ON CONCLUSION OF CODES OF CONDUCT AS WELL AS APPROPRIATE COMMODITY AGREEMENTS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 07851 221517Z

STATEMENT ALSO REJECTS THEORY OF "SOME" GATT CPS THAT POLISH FOREIGN TRADE MONOPOLY IS AN OBSTACLE TO TRADE, CONFIRMS POLISH INTEREST IN HIGH RATES OF GROWTH OF FOREIGN TRADE, BUT CITES ADVERSE B/P IMPACT OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST POLISH EXPORTS AS REASON WHY VALUE OF POLICH IMPORTS MUST BE DETERMINED BY POLAND'S PAYMENT CAPACITY.

- 2. WE CONTACTED POLISH DELEGATION LAST WEEK TO INQUIRE (A) WHAT THE TARIFF OFFER MEANT IN VIEW CONTINUED UNCERTAINTY ABOUT NATURE OF POLISH TARIFF INCLUDING WHETHER IT IS APPLIED TO IMPORTS FROM ALL SOURCES OR FROM GATT COUNTRIES ONLY, AND (B) WHEN CAN WE EXPECT POLISH RESPONSE TO U.S. NTM REQUESTS. POLISH REP SIMPLY SAID POLAND'S TARIFF HAS BEEN PUBLISHED AND HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON U.S. NTM REQUESTS.
- 3. COMMENTS: (A) WE WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION OF OUR ASSUMPTION U.S. DOES NOT WISH TO NEGOTIATE WITH POLAND ON THEIR TARIFF OR GIVE NEGOTIATING CREDIT FOR REDUCTIONS OF POLISH RATES UNLESS AND UNTIL POLAND'S TARIFF HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY GATT CPS AS NON-DISCRIMINATORY. (THIS IS MOST UNLIKELY TO OCCUR IN MTN TIME-FRAME; EC EAST-WEST EXPERT KAWAN TOLD US RECENTLY HE IS POSITIVE POLAND'S TARIFF DOES NOT APPLY TO IMPORTS FROM EE COUNTRIES.)
- (B) WE ARE NOT SANGUINE THAT ANYONE IN POLISH GOVERN-MENT IS PAYING ANY ATTENTION TO THE MTN OR TO REPORTS FROM POLISH DELEGATION GENEVA (IF INDEED THEY ARE REPORTING AT ALL). TO GET SOME RESPONSE TO OUR MODEST NTM REQUESTS, AN APPROACH AT SUITABLY HIGH LEVEL IN WARSAW SEEMS IN ORDER ASAP.
- 4. DRAFTED BY CULBERT. MCDONALD

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